



**Cal OES**  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



# 2014 Drought Response Report

## State Operations Center

### Situation Brief – April 22, 2014



# Situational Summary

On January 17, 2014 Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. proclaimed a State of Emergency and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for drought conditions. The State Operation Center (SOC) is activated to implement objectives in support of the Governor's priorities. The lack of winter rain and snowfall has resulted in extremely dry conditions in many parts of the State. Reservoir levels are down significantly from where they should be on average for this time of year. If conditions continue without substantial rainfall, severe impacts to municipal water supplies, agriculture (plants and livestock) and firefighting capabilities are likely in store for the State over the next few months. Negative economic impacts will also result.

This week brings cooler and wetter weather across the state, although precipitation will likely be limited.

**\*\*As our state's rainy season comes to an end, it is highly unlikely that precipitation totals will increase significantly. This winter's below average rain and snowfall worsens conditions in this third straight dry year.\***

The drought could result in severe impacts to the municipal water supplies, wells, agriculture (plants and livestock) and firefighting capabilities for several months. The SOC continues to be activated to monitor the situation statewide, and support regional and local operational areas.

# Situational Summary (cont'd)

Information as of 4/21/14

- The Taskforce continues to meet regularly to take actions that conserve water and coordinate state response to the drought.
- The most recent snowpack survey, conducted on April 1, recorded California snowpack at 32% of normal. A more recent update using automated devices shows snowpack at 19% of normal as of April 20.
- DWR has announced that water essential for health and safety will be delivered through the state water project in spite of the zero allocation policy. Deliveries will be boosted if storms produce enough rain and snow to increase reservoir storage and the snow pack.
- Cal OES continues to gather drought-related costs from state agencies and local governments.

# Drought Impacts

## 1. Drinking Water (Information as of 4/21/14)

- The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) is developing questions that will be included in the upcoming Annual Report (AER) to gather data on water conservation and drought preparedness. The data collection will begin 3/10/2014, with a deadline to complete of 4/18/2014.
- CDPH has established and continually updates the CDPH Drinking Water website, as needed at: <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater/Pages/DroughtPreparedness.aspx>.
- CDPH activated an Information Line to answer concerns or questions about public drinking water systems. Contact (855) 737-1796, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, effective Monday, February 24, 2014.
- **Vulnerable Water Systems:** The California Department of Public Health is providing technical and funding assistance to help several communities facing near-term drinking water shortages and is monitoring water systems across the state to determine where else it can provide support. Updated information can be found at the CDPH Drinking Water Program website.

## 2. Fires (Information as of 4/21/14)

- 1,040 fires have been reported across the state since January 1, burning 2,393 acres. This year's fire activity is well above the year-to-date average of 428 wildfires, burning 1,179 acres. 87 new wildfires were reported over the past week, most of which were kept small due to additional firefighters, fire engines and firefighting aircraft added during this dry winter.

# Drought Impacts (continued)

## 3. Economic Impacts (Information as of 3/12/14)

- Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack declared two more California counties, Riverside and San Diego official disaster areas, bringing the total number of counties in this category to 56 of the 58 counties. Farmers in these counties are eligible for low interest emergency loans and other disaster assistance programs. The remaining two counties (Imperial and San Francisco) are covered as "contiguous" areas – as such, all counties in California are eligible for assistance.
- By law, SBA makes Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) available when the U. S. Secretary of Agriculture designates an agricultural disaster. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack declared this disaster on February 26, 2014.
- No information is available yet regarding impact on labor due to drought. Employment Development Department (EDD) will be sending weekly updates.

## 4. Agricultural Impacts (Information as of 4/8/14)

- CDFA will hold two public stakeholder meetings to discuss its new Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program, as well as receive comments and suggestions for the program's implementation. These meetings will take place on April 11, 2014 at CDFA headquarters, and on April 18, 2014 at the Stanislaus County Agricultural Center in Modesto.
- CDFA Secretary Karen Ross will hold an additional agricultural stakeholder call regarding the drought on Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

## 5. Community Impacts (Information as of 4/8/14)

- CDFA's drought webpage has been updated to include additional community resources with links and descriptions for the following programs from USDA's Farm Service Agency: Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP), Livestock Forage Program (LFP), Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-raised Fish (ELAP), and Tree Assistance Program (TAP). These programs will be open for sign-up in mid-April 2014 (exact date unknown).





# Federal Resources/Actions

Information as of 4/21/14

- **President signs the Drought Information Act:** Congress passed and the President signed a federal bill to reauthorize the National Integrated Drought Information System Reauthorization Act (NIDIS). This act enables a federal early warning system for droughts by providing information, forecasts and assessments to vulnerable states. NIDIS was championed by the Western Governors Association, based on the drought vulnerability of western states.
- **Water Allocations Increase:** The capture of storm runoff from February and March rains has enabled the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of Water Resources to update their water allocations:
  - Reclamation will increase its water allocation to Upper Sacramento Settlement Contractors from 40% to 75%. Several of these contractors have agreed to take their allocations later in the season than normal, which will benefit migrating fish. Some water from this increased allocation may be used south of the Delta thanks to water transfers between willing water buyers and sellers.
  - DWR has increased its allocation for South of Delta Service Contractors from 0% to 5%. This increase, while modest, will enable approximately 200,000 acre feet of water to state water project users.
- **Salinity barriers not currently needed:** DWR and partner agencies have determined that rock barriers to prevent saltwater intrusion into the Delta are not needed at this time. Salinity barriers remain an option for later in the year if needed.

# Federal Resources/Actions (continued)

Information as of 4/21/14

- **Increased fish monitoring:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife and federal fish and wildlife agencies announced they will immediately move to expand monitoring of the drought's evolving impacts on protected fish, including those migrating through the Sacramento River.
- **US Navy demonstrates leadership on water conservation:** Navy Region Southwest, the Navy division that manages California Navy bases, is taking new steps to conserve water at its bases, including aiming to reduce water usage another 10% through December. This recent push continues Navy Region Southwest's successful water conservation efforts, which has included reducing water use by more than 26% since 2007.

# State Resources

Information as of 3/10/14

Governor Brown signed emergency legislation that provides funding for shovel-ready water projects and emergency assistance to communities hurt by the drought. The proposal also streamlines state rules to enable more water recycling, strong enforcement of water rights and housing assistance to migrant workers. Funding in the bill includes:

- \$549 million for infrastructure grants to increase storm water capture and use of recycled water, improve management of groundwater storage, and strengthen water conservation.
- \$40 million from the proceeds of the state's cap-and-trade program to help local water agencies improve their water and energy efficiency, help farmers upgrade irrigation and water pumping systems to reduce water and energy use, and to enable retrofits in commercial and residential buildings that improve water and energy efficiency.
- \$25 million for emergency food assistance in areas hard-hit by the drought.
- \$21 million for housing-related assistance to drought victims.
- \$15 million to help communities that face drinking water shortages access alternative water supplies.
- \$14 million to improve groundwater management across the state, including help to disadvantaged communities with groundwater contamination exacerbated by the drought.



# State Resources

Information as of 4/21/14

- **Statewide fire staffing continues to expand:** Last week, CALFIRE added another 42 fire engines across the state, and will add 65 more engines this week. CALFIRE has increased firefighter staffing this spring far earlier than normal amidst dry conditions and abnormally high wildfire activity. In the last week alone, 82 new fires were reported.
- **Housing assistance for drought victims advances:** The California Department of Housing & Community Development is currently seeking public input on its plan to spend \$21 million in grant funding for rental assistance to individuals impacted by the drought. This public comment will inform the way these funds are spent later this spring and summer.
- **Drought Relief Food Assistance:** On Thursday, the California Department of Social Services announced that food banks in 24 drought-impacted counties will soon receive shipments of the first \$5.1 million in food assistance authorized by the state's emergency drought legislation.
- **Upcoming workshop on recent water operations:** The State Water Resources Control Board will hold a workshop on Tuesday, May 6 to discuss recent actions the Water Board has taken to provide flexibility to DWR and the Bureau of Reclamation in their water operations. These changes have been approved through modifications to Temporary Urgency Change Petitions, and is described in greater detail on [drought.ca.gov](http://drought.ca.gov).



# State Resources

Information as of 4/21/14

- **Water Board launches web tool:** The State Water Board has developed a webpage that helps water users monitor river flow in watersheds where they live and farm. This information, which will be updated weekly, helps water users anticipate any curtailment of their water use that may become necessary due to lack of river flow.
- **Drought Taskforce leaders travel to Tulare and Visalia:** Leaders of the Governor's Drought Taskforce will hold their fourth regional meeting with local government leaders in Visalia on Monday, April 28. These regional meetings allow Taskforce leaders to learn more about localized drought impacts. Drought Taskforce meetings have already taken place in Willits, Merced and Santa Cruz.
- **Upcoming workshop on recent water operations:** The State Water Resources Control Board will hold a workshop on Tuesday, May 6 to discuss recent actions the Water Board has taken to provide flexibility to DWR and the Bureau of Reclamation in their water operations. These changes have been approved through modifications to Temporary Urgency Change Petitions, and is described in greater detail on [drought.ca.gov](http://drought.ca.gov).
- **Cost Data:** Cal OES continues to gather drought-related costs from state agencies and local governments, which is reported weekly to the Drought Taskforce.
- **Governor's Drought Task Force:** The Taskforce continues to meet daily to take actions that conserve water and coordinate state response to the drought

# State Advance/Strategic Planning

Information Current as of 4/18/14

State actions looking forward for 30, 60, 120 days ahead will focus on:

- State and federal funding and legislative actions.
- Agricultural support, including USDA programs and other assistance to farmers.
- Actions to address water system operations and water supply, including curtailments, transfers, delta emergency actions.
- Actions to assess and assist with emergency needs related to drinking water.
- Assessment of hydropower generation, and any direct or indirect impacts to the electricity supply.
- Actions to address long-term habitat preservation.
- Community support needs and delivery of needed services such as food, rental/housing assistance, utilities assistance and support to non-profit organizations.
- Public health and safety issues such as increased fire threat, security threats, and activation of contingency plans.
- Actions to anticipate and address air quality impacts from continuing drought.

# Current Missions

Information Current as of 4/18/14

## Current Missions:

- There are no current missions open at this time.
- Mission 2014-Inland-2185 Tuolumne County was completed on March 25, 2014.

# County Drought Task Force Meetings

Information as of 4/18/14

County Drought Task Force Upcoming Meetings		
Inland Region		
County	Previous Meetings	Upcoming Meetings
Butte	2/18/2014	5/19/2014
Kern	4/10/2014	
Madera	3/11/2014	4/29/2014
Merced	4/17/2014	
Modoc	2/12/2014	
Nevada	4/15/2014	
Placer	3/12/2014	
Plumas	4/14/2014	
Sacramento	4/11/2014	
San Joaquin	4/17/2014	
Siskiyou	3/12/2014	4/22/2014
Stanislaus	3/19/2014	5/8/2014
Sutter	3/13/2014	5/8/2014
Tehama	2/18/2014	5/19/2014
Tulare	4/14/2014	
Tuolumne	3/28/2014	5/1/2014
Coastal Region		
County	Previous Meetings	Upcoming Meetings
Mendocino	4/16/2014	
Monterey		
San Mateo	3/18/2014	
Santa Clara	2/27/2014	
Solano	3/31/2014	
Southern Region		
County	Previous Meetings	Upcoming Meetings
San Luis Obispo	3/19/2014	
Santa Barbara	3/12/2014	Postponed
Orange	4/1/2014	



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# County Updates

## Local Government ( as of 4/21/14)

- **Water Agency Conservation Efforts:** The Association of California Water Agencies has identified several hundred local water agencies that have implemented water conservation actions. These water agencies are responding to the drought by implementing conservation programs, which include voluntary calls for reduced water usage and mandatory restrictions where water shortages are worst.
- **County Drought Taskforces:** A total of 24 counties have established drought task forces to coordinate local drought response. These counties include: Butte, Kern, Madera, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Monterey, Nevada, Orange, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Siskiyou, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Tulare, and Tuolumne.

## Coastal Region Updates

### **Marin** (as of 4/17/14)

- Despite no rain in the last week, rainfall runoff contributed to a slight increase in reservoir levels from 81% to 82% of capacity for the week ending April 13. Consumption dropped 13% from the same week one year ago.



# County Updates (continued)

## Coastal Region Updates

### San Francisco

- Voluntary 10% reduction
- All city departments are directed to take steps immediately to reduce their water consumption by at least 10 percent.
- By April 1, 2014, develop a plan and timeline for replacing potable water with non-potable water sources for street cleaning.
- Effective immediately, all departments shall educate employees and facility visitors about the efficient use of water at City facilities and the need to conserve.

### San Mateo

- **March 18,2014 Correction:** The County of San Mateo does not have a Drought Task force. At the March 18,2014 meeting of the County's Emergency Managers' Association addressed forming a task force and received strong push back citing, that California has been in a drought situation for well over 100 years and for San Mateo County Peninsula; is the reason our water storage is in the eastern part of the state.
- **UPDATES:** The County Emergency Managers' Association (EMA) plans to discuss Drought 2014 on May 22 and has invited the Bay Area Water Supply Conservation Agency President, County Agriculture Commissioner and County Public Works Watershed Protection representatives to the meeting; to further discuss forming a Drought Group or a Drought Task force.

# County Updates (continued)

## Coastal Region Updates

### **San Mateo** - continued (as of 4/17/2014)

- County Service Areas - No new updates for La Honda (CSA-7) or Pescadero (CSA-11) other than County Public Works has been requested by the Board of Supervisors/County Manager's Office, to look into the costs and options for providing incentives; such as rebates to customers to install low flow devices (shower heads, toilets, etc.) in their homes or businesses. The plan is Public Works will report back to the Board in June 2014.

### **Solano** (as of 4/17/2014)

- Disaster Council meeting moved to Apr 23 to accommodate multiple scheduling contacts. Ag Commissioner, Solano Irrigation District and Solano Water Agency leaders will present briefings and Q&A. Discussion will include potential Proclamation for Ag related concerns on the County

### **Sonoma** - (as of 4/17/14)

- Two water systems in OA are being placed in "vulnerable" status by CDPH, Mt. Taylor Mobile Home Park and Timber Cove County Water District. Meeting in Santa Rosa with them on April 17.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Butte** (as of 4/17/14)

- Public has been informed through media outlets that Western Canal District will receive 100% of water allocation. The attached letter from DWR to Western Canal District says otherwise.

### **Calaveras** (as of 4/17/14):

- At this time, the County is more concerned about the dry fuels and potential for a major fire than they are with drought.
- Calaveras MAC meeting held on 4/10/2014. County is continuing voluntary conservation measures. Determination made not to proclaim a local emergency or implement mandatory water restrictions. County will reconvene in the summer (date TBD) to evaluate situation again.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Fresno (as of 4/17/14)**

- Status of Electric and Gas Utility Service - Normal
- EF-04 FIRE - Fire season conditions are expected to begin earlier and potentially last longer this year. CAL FIRE has increased its staff earlier this year due to the fuels conditions and the potential for an earlier fire season. Currently, the Fresno-Kings Unit has two-thirds of the peak season staffing and equipment in place due to the fire danger. As the fire potential continues to develop, weekly hazard analyses are being completed throughout the unit to determine when the remaining one-third of the staffing and equipment will be brought online. There is a concern regarding the availability and access to water for fire operations. Finding water will be difficult due to the low level of reservoirs, streams, and lakes.
- EF-05 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT - The Fresno County Office of Emergency Services maintains ongoing contact with local stakeholders from Ag, Water, Social Services and Fire to review our current drought impacts and to refine our system for reporting changes as they occur. The representatives in this group will provide regular updates to County OES. This information will be used to plan our response and to maintain and update our weekly situation reports. Planning and Intelligence will continue to update situational status as future changes occur.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Fresno** (as of 4/17/14)

- EF-06 MASS CARE, HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES - Due to the drought unemployment will increase significantly. Many of our communities depend largely on farming for their economic support. In some communities we expect unemployment levels to increase to approximately 40 percent, similar to the impacts in previous water-short years, such as 2009.
- With the lack of water we expect to see a significant impact on Ag as well as other industries. A lack of crops/production will lead to a lack of jobs and revenue being generated throughout most of our communities. Many of our residents and communities will suffer. As with the last drought we expect our private non-profit organizations to be heavily impacted with requests for assistance. Most of these agencies are already overwhelmed so they will likely be asking for help to meet the needs of our citizens who don't have resources due to the drought. The County and our cities will have higher operational costs and will not have as much revenue coming in due to the impacts the drought will have on our economy.
- Local Private Non Profit Organizations are beginning to meet to discuss the level of need and what resources will be available to help.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Fresno (as of 4/17/14)**

- EF-11 AGRICULTURE - The Fresno County Ag Commissioner is working with the County Farm Bureau and other partner agencies to attempt to accurately quantify the impacts that the drought is currently having on the agricultural economy in our County as well as projecting future impacts.
- Current impacts: Rangeland conditions are deteriorating since the most recent rain events. Feeding of cattle on rangeland continues. Cattlemen have aggressively culled herds and sold calves early to try to save the mother herd. Well water and carryover allocations of water is being used to protect producing permanent crops. Some orchards have been removed and allocated water is being diverted to younger orchards.
- Anticipated future drought related impacts (some of these impacts are already occurring) Based on a sampling of farmers, Fresno County is on track to fallow at least 200,000 acres of productive farmland this year as a result of the drought. The value of lost crop production is estimated to be approximately \$1.7 billion. The value of lost economic activity tied to reduced crop production is estimated to reach \$5 billion. Plantings of spring lettuce are expected to be reduced by 50%. Plantings of cotton and other row crops are also being reduced. Later in the year we will see reduced production of bell peppers, melons, processing tomatoes and other annual crops. Reduced plantings of these crops will have a major impact on available jobs.



# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### Fresno (as of 4/17/14)

- EF-11 AGRICULTURE (continued) - Unemployment will increase significantly. In communities that depend largely on farming for their economic support, we can expect to see increases to approximately 40 percent, similar to the impacts in previous water-short years, such as 2009.
- With the lack of water we expect to see a significant impact on Ag as well as other industries. A lack of crops/production will lead to a lack of jobs and revenue being generated throughout most of our communities. Many of our residents and communities will suffer.
- EF-12 UTILITIES - Municipal Water Systems - No jurisdictions are currently reporting water shortage problems. Although some jurisdictions have been given reduced allocations for the upcoming water year, they have indicated that they feel they will be able to get by with the water that they will receive. Some cities are concerned about the expected increase in costs for water and some are seeking USDA assistance to help cover these costs.
- Several communities on the west side of the County rely on surface water to meet their needs. These communities were recently notified of their water allocations for the upcoming year.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### Fresno (as of 4/17/14)

- EF-12 UTILITIES (continued) The City of Coalinga's water allotment will be 3285 AF and they will be implementing Stage 2 water conservation efforts (outdoor irrigation only 2-days per week).
- The City of Huron's water allotment will be 649 AF and they have implemented an alternate day watering schedule. Huron will begin taking steps to implement Stage 4 conservation, which would prohibit outdoor irrigation. The City will address this first through a noticed public hearing, followed by a board-adopted resolution. The City has identified an ag well ¼ mile from their surface water plant that may be suitable for emergency supply. They will approach the owner to begin discussions. Both CDPH and USDA are providing the city with ongoing assistance as they seek to meet their upcoming water needs. Huron has made contact with two farmers, each with ag wells in the vicinity of the City's water treatment plant. The farmers were both supportive of working with the City to meet emergency water supply needs. The Huron City Council adopted a water conservation ordinance and has implemented level four of the ordinance that will stop all landscape irrigation with only minimal exceptions.
- Westlands Water District's M&I water allotment will be 1373 AF. Westlands Water District indicated that they will allow M&I water users "to use up to their historic usage (last year for example) though they must comply with the District's prohibition on outdoor watering this year. There should therefore be no public water systems that have contracts with Westlands for M&I water that should be experiencing critical water shortages this summer.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Fresno (as of 4/17/14)**

- EF-12 UTILITIES (continued) -CDPH Drinking Water Program Engineers are continually working with these and other jurisdictions to monitor water status and provide assistance as needed. The CDPH Fresno and Merced Districts hosted a workshop on April 2, 2014, for the Shaver Lake water systems to discuss drought issues and provide information on drought contingency planning as well as to encourage shared solutions. It was attended by representatives of at least 9 water systems in that area. Per the local CDPH Drinking Water Program Engineers there are currently no reports of water outages or critical water supplies (<60 days) in Fresno County.
- Wells: - There has been a significant increase in the number of permits being issued to drill wells. Permits for well drilling have been approximately double what they were at this time last year. According to an informal survey of local well drillers the average wait time for an Ag well is about 10-12 months. Wait times for domestic wells is about 5-10 months depending on the location.
- FUTURE CONCERNS/ OPERATIONS - At this time there is a great deal of concern regarding the drought but most people think that the major impacts will not be felt for another couple of months. Lack of jobs and the economic impact on communities will likely cause the most strain on our area. Impacted citizens will need assistance with food, rent and utilities. Environmental impacts from the increased utilization of well water will likely lead to subsidence issues and over time will create high salt content in our soils making farm land less productive. Public and private industry will be impacted economically by the lack of water and/or the higher costs associated with obtaining water.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Kern (as of 4/17/14):**

- The drought has left some Kern County ranchers with no option but to begin selling parts of their livestock. Shepherders are one of the ranchers that have been hit the hardest. They say many of the natural green pastures that they once had have turned into a dirt lot because there is no water. Shepherders have turned to hay to feed their livestock but the price of hay is going up as well. Local hay growers said they have had to deal with a high demand of hay in the last several months. The price of hay has gone from around \$210 to over \$240 in the last few weeks.

### **Kings (as of 4/17/14):**

- As reported by the Hanford Sentinel: The Lemoore City Council will consider action Tuesday to adopt a tiered response plan to deal with the drought crisis. The proposed plan outlines methods to urge citizens to conserve water. Enforcement would begin with public education and voluntary compliance, followed by three increasing levels of restrictions placed on water use.

### **Madera (as of 4/17/14):**

- OES will also be working with Central CA Animal Disaster Team in preparing for incident as it progresses.
- Next Drought Task Force meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 29, 2014.
- Still having web EOC access issues and not able to identify if postings have been recorded.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Mariposa** (as of 4/17/14):

- To the Yosemite-Mariposa (Y-M) Regional Water Advisory Council (RWAC) and other interested stakeholders: Please review the attached news items from the California Water Plan eNews update and the list of emerging investments strategies for IRWM, including proposed base-level funding for active Regional Water Management Groups.
- As noted on the eNews page, DWR has released for public comment, the draft 2014 IRWM Grant Guidelines and Drought Grant Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) for the recently approved Drought Funding. The public comment period ends May 15, after which the application period opening date will be announced.

### **Merced** (as of 4/17/14):

- Next Drought Taskforce Meeting April 17, 2014.
- Drought Proclamation Renewed, next Renewal will be April 22, 2014

### **Nevada**(as of 4/17/14):

- NID Declared a Drought Emergency - Stage II. Currently no mandatory restrictions but asking a 10-15% voluntary reduction.
- Drought Task Force Meeting - Today - April 15, 2014.
- Drought has no current impact for the eastern portion of Nevada County - Truckee area - Truckee Donner Public Utility District

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Placer (as of 4/17/14):**

- The City of Roseville announced on March 24, mandatory 20 percent water use restrictions effective immediately. The restrictions include a targeted 20% reduction in water use by residents and businesses from normal seasonal use, Commercial water customers are required to reduce irrigation by 30% for existing landscaping, washing of vehicles or boats is prohibited except when using a hose that is equipped with a control nozzle capable of completely shutting off the flow of water or when washed in either an automatic or manual commercial car wash.
- The Nevada Irrigation District Board declaring a stage II drought On April 9th. Highlights from the resolution are below:
  - Request voluntary 10-15% reductions to help enhance carryover storage
  - Inside District- Accept new sales and increases, but with scrutiny. This is a change from their February 12th Board decision.
  - Outside District- no new sales or increases
  - No supplemental water for South Sutter Water District
  - Target goal of 75% (or 110,000AF) of average for storage carryover, which they believe they can achieve with purchasing water from PG&E and voluntary reductions.
  - Water season will start next week, but the reso gives the district the ability to end the season early to ensure carryover storage amounts are met.
- The board gave staff approval to move forward with purchasing 20,000-25,000 acre feet of water from PG&E at \$30/AF.



# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Placer-continued** (as of 4/17/14):

Key items from PCWA:

- PG&E released their water number as 60% of normal range for water supply
- Treated water for residential/homeowners- calling for 10-15% voluntary reduction
- Untreated for agriculture- 1" or more mandatory 10%, for less than 1" the reduction is voluntary.

### **Plumas** (as of 4/17/14)

- Drought Preparedness Meeting is scheduled for 4/14/14.

### **San Joaquin County** (as of 4/17/14):

- Due to a schedule conflict, the next Agricultural Drought Task Force meeting will be moved to April 17th.
- South San Joaquin County Irrigation District has decided to fill Woodward Reservoir in Oakdale. The reservoir will be filled May 1st through July 7th.
- SSJID advised water conditions have improved over Jan & Feb and are now expecting to receive 75-80,000 AF more than their initial projection.
- Next Steps: Continued education will be of the utmost importance in the coming weeks. Keep all jurisdictions updated on situations and actions taken by state and federal agencies to assist during the drought.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Siskiyou** (as of 4/17/14):

- The county is still continuing to work with the City of Montague and the Montague Water Conservation District (MWCD) in regard to their water emergency. The city and district are currently working on developing detailed project and cost estimations so they can begin the process of applying for financial assistance through CDPH and USDA.
- The current target project would consist of connecting to an existing water diversion located on the Shasta River just north of Hwy 3. Water pipe would be run from the point of diversion to the City of Montague's treatment facility, which is estimated to be approximately 13,000 feet of pipe. Implementing this project would require a portion of the water pipe to be run under a rail line owned by Union Pacific Railroad. Senator Ted Gaines' office submitted a letter to Union Pacific Railroad on Montague's behalf explaining the circumstances and requesting their assistance in working with us to expedite any processes (See attached letter).
- On 04/10/14, the City of Montague hosted a public forum in regard to the water emergency. Several handouts were provided to the public for their review (See Attached Handouts). MWCD engineer Gary Black addressed attendees in regard to the current water situation at Dwinnel Dam. Black advised the attendees that with consistent conservation, the city would potentially run out of water around August 1, 2014. With a lack of consistent conservation, Black said the city could potentially run out of water as early as July 1, 2014.
- City Mayor Jayne Keller advised attendees that water curtailment was going to become mandatory, explaining the city was going to impose monetary penalties for over-consumption of water. This will be enforced by water meter readings. The higher the water use, the higher the monetary penalty will be. The City of Montague is meeting today (04/11) to develop their water conservation plan and develop a structured penalty matrix.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Siskiyou** (as of 4/17/14):

- At the end of the meeting, the board ratified a resolution proclaiming a local emergency due drought conditions and imminent threat of disaster in the City of Montague.
- The county has been in contact with the City of Etna regarding their water situation. Etna City Clerk Pam Russell advised the city's water is currently stable with no concerns at this time. The city developed a water conservation plan that they plan on implementing, if needed. Russell said their engineer has advised them that he believes the city should be fine until around August or September. He believes they may have to implement their water conservation plan in August or September to get them through the end of the summer, but feels they will have enough water to get to the higher precipitation winter months.

### **Stanislaus** (as of 4/17/14):

- The next Stanislaus County Drought Task Force meeting is scheduled for May 8th.

### **Sutter** (as of 4/17/14):

Continuation of the Emergency Declaration (Resolution # 14-011) was approved 4/8/14.

### **Tuolumne** (as of 4/17/14):

- Next drought task force meeting tentatively scheduled for 5/1/14 at the Tuolumne BOS Chambers.
- TUD reports that Lyons Reservoir is looking better and is starting to fill up. Therefore, they will hold on starting up the pumps at New Melones until we think we need the water the most.

# County Updates

## Inland Region Updates

### **Tuolumne (as of 4/17/14)**

- Tuolumne Utilities District is in the process of finalizing the agreement between SSJID and Chicken Ranch for purchase of water from New Melones. The agreement should be finalized by the end of this week (4/18/2014). One of the issues that is being discussed is whether the water purchased by TUD pumped beyond 9/30/14 will go against this year's water allocation or next year's 14/15. SSJID is waiting for their water allocation before supporting the request for TUD to pump beyond 9/30/2014.
- Tuolumne OES has arranged for four (4) community forums to discuss drought. The first one is scheduled for 4/30/14 a 6:30 pm at the Sonora Opera Hall.

## Southern Region Updates

### **San Luis Obispo County (as of 4/17/14)**

- Due to severe drought conditions, the California Fish and Game Commission adopted, on February 5, 2014 the recommendation of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement emergency regulations that close certain waters to fishing; for San Luis Obispo County this includes all portions of any coastal stream west of any Highway 1 bridge until April 30.

# • County Updates

## Southern Region Updates

### **Santa Barbara (as of 4/17/14)**

- ON FRIDAY, APRIL 4TH, THE US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION NOTIFIED CENTRAL COAST WATER AUTHORITY (CCWA) TO STOP PUMPING INTO LAKE CACHUMA:
- Drought Task Force Meeting: Originally scheduled for April 9th, was postponed.
- April 15th: BOS Re-Ratification
- Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA): Purchase of 10,000 AF from rice farmers north of the delta: Continue to negotiate and explore this potential purchase. Conditions of the delta have improved significantly to allow for transfers. The call date for agreeing to this purchase is April 25th. Santa Barbara will continue to negotiate and explore the various issues on this purchase prior to the April 25th call date.
- On Friday, April 4th, the US Bureau of Reclamation notified CCWA to stop pumping into Lake Cachuma. The Bureau has to provide flows into Hilton Creek and the Santa Ynez River for fish. They have two pumps to meet the flow and one is broken.
- In order to make up the difference in the required flows in Hilton Creek and what the one pump can provide, they are using the delivery facilities we use to pump into the Lake to make up the difference.
- CCWA is hiring a vendor to install piping along the side of the spillway at the dam so that CCWA can deliver directly into Cachuma Lake instead of through the existing facilities; hoping to resume deliveries by the middle of next week. Vendor should begin work on Monday 14th. Estimated cost of \$25K. CCWA is in negotiations to purchase and/or exchange water with other State Water Project contractor's carryover water in the San Luis Reservoir. CCWA hopes to have more information on that after meetings in Sacramento next week. CCWA Supplemental Water Purchase Program is fully functioning now.

# Weather Synopsis by Region

Information as of 4/22/14

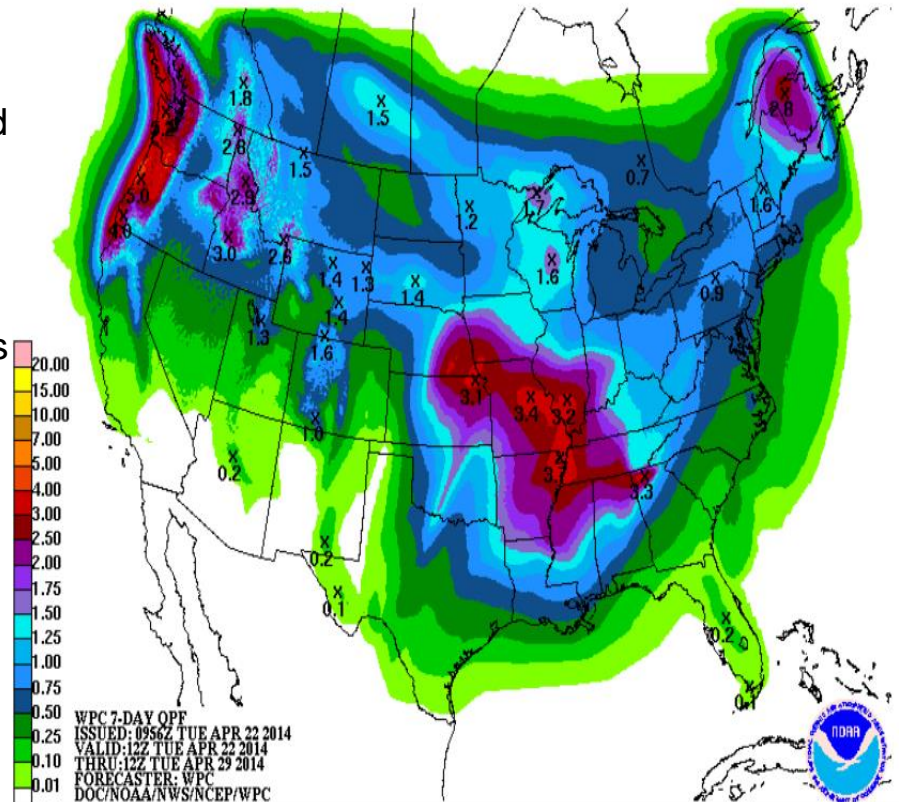
## Northern & Central California

### Eureka Weather:

Showers will continue this morning as an upper level trough moves over the area. Additional systems will bring periods of rain through the end of the week.

### San Francisco Weather:

Breezy conditions and much cooler temperatures will occur today in wake of this morning's frontal passage with precipitation diminishing by late morning. Generally dry conditions are on tap for midweek along with slightly warmer daytime temperatures. The next weather system will then bring rain chances and cooler conditions back to the region late in the week.



<http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/qpf/day1-7.shtml>



# Weather Synopsis by Region

Information as of 4/22/14

## Central California and Southern San Joaquin Valley

### Sacramento Weather:

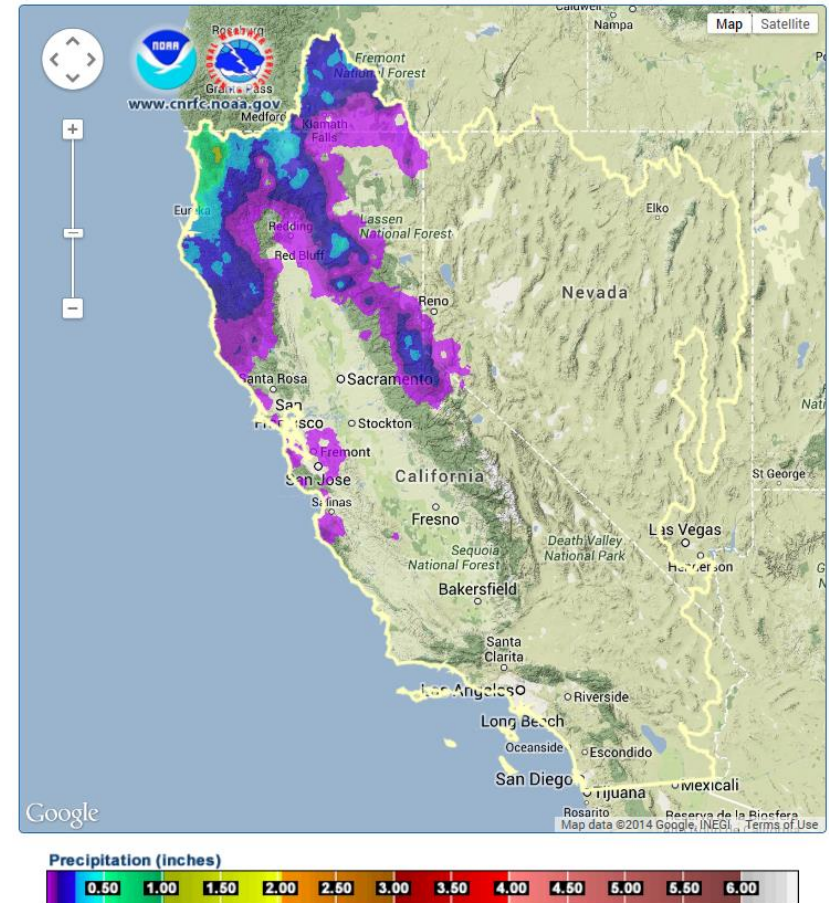
A quick moving weather system will bring some showers to mainly the northern Sierra today; otherwise, cooler temperatures along with breezy conditions are expected. Milder temperatures are forecast through midweek, and then another weather system will bring a chance of precipitation along with cooler temperatures later in the week.

### Hanford Weather:

A cold weather system will bring significant cooling, strong gusty winds to the region and a chance of light precipitation mainly over the foothills and Sierra. Temperatures will continue cooler than average Wednesday before rebounding a few degrees Thursday. Another storm will arrive at the end of the week bringing winds, cooler temperatures and a chance of rain and snow to the region.

## California Precipitation Graphic

72 hour (4/22/14-4/25/14)



<http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/google.php>

# Weather Synopsis by Region

Information as of 4/22/14

## Southern California

### Los Angeles Weather:

A weak low pressure system will move over the region through early Wednesday and bring cool and windy weather to most of the area. A warming trend will develop for Wednesday and Thursday as high pressure aloft builds in, but another low pressure system is on the tap for Friday along with cool temperatures and possible precipitation from Friday into Saturday. A warming trend is possible for early next week with offshore flow.

### Orange, San Diego, Western Riverside, and Southwestern San Bernardino Weather:

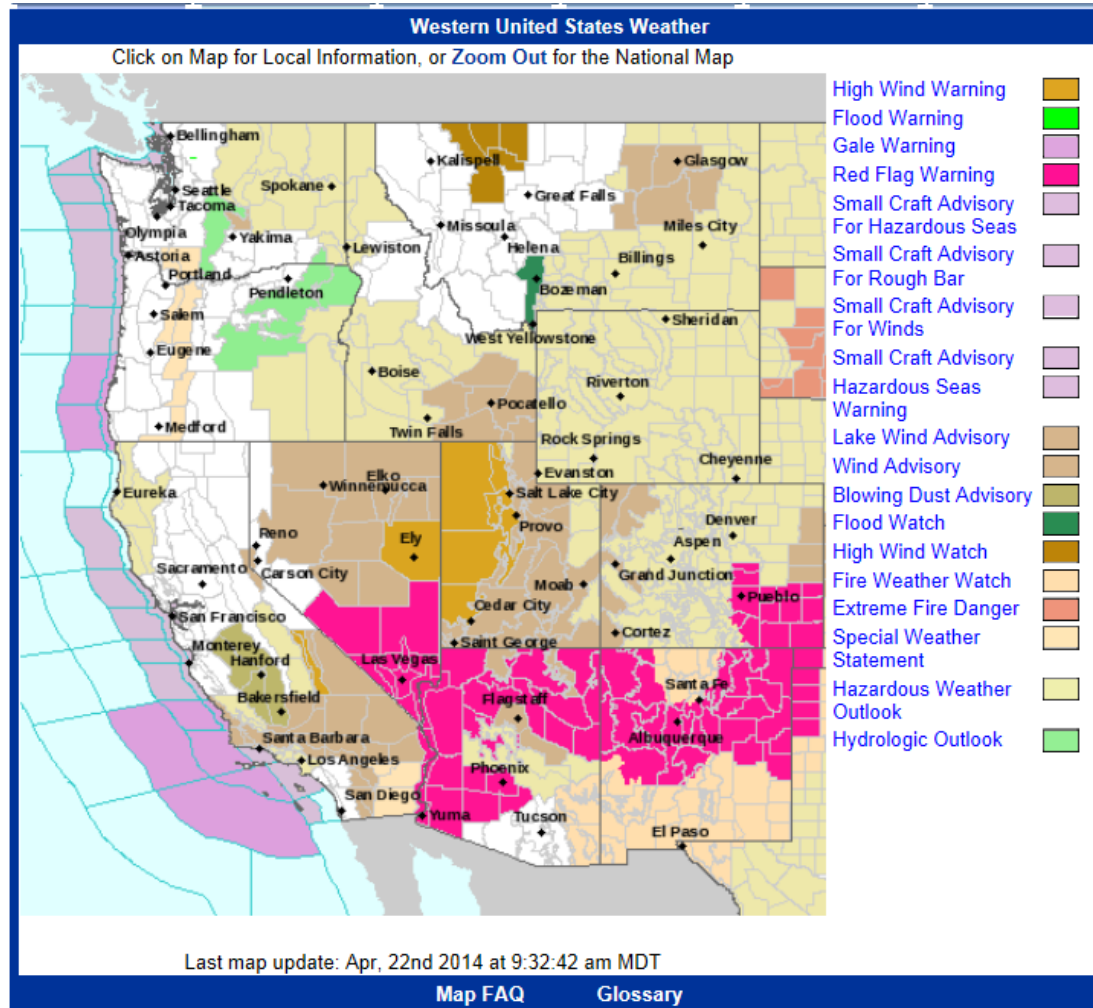
#### Southeast California Weather:

Through early Wednesday, a trough of low pressure will move inland along the West Coast bringing cooling, deepening of the marine layer, and strong gusty west winds in the mountains and deserts. For Thursday, there will be weaker winds with warming and then cooling and increasing west winds for Friday. Another stronger trough of low pressure Friday night and Saturday will bring cooling, deepening of the marine layer, strong gusty west winds in the mountains and deserts, and a chance of precipitation along and west of the mountains. Dry with a warming trend for Sunday into the middle of next week.



# State Weather Map

Information as of 4/22/14



<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/>



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## National 7-day Significant Fire Potential Outlook



### Legend

#### Fuel Dryness

- Moist - Little or no risk for large fires.
- Dry - Low risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Very dry - Low/Moderate risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
- Data Unavailable.

#### High Risk Events

- W** Wind
- H** Hot and Dry
- Lightning

#### Missing Stations

- Yurok
- Whitmore Califo

### California - North Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Predictive Service Area	Sun Apr 20	Mon Apr 21	Tue Apr 22	Wed Apr 23	Thu Apr 24	Fri Apr 25	Sat Apr 26	Sun Apr 27
NC01 - North Coast								
NC02 - Mid Coast								
NC03A - Bay Area-Marine								
NC03B - Diablo/Santa Cruz Mtns								
NC04 - Northwestern Mtns								
NC05 - Sacramento Valley								
NC06 - Northeast CA								
NC07 - Northern Sierra								
NC08 - East Side								

#### Weather

\*\*\* Much cooler, wetter, unsettled weather pattern this week\*\*\*

Cloudiness heralding a change in weather pattern will be moving across North Ops today. A low pressure trough off the coast will move ashore later tonight and bring some light precipitation with it. Amounts are expected to mostly be less than a quarter inch from this first wave through Tuesday morning. Moderate to strong gusty southerly winds will also develop tonight with this system, especially in the higher elevations before becoming westerly Tuesday behind the system.

Variable amounts of cloudiness will prevail later Tuesday through Wednesday. More light precipitation will begin moving ashore in the far NW Wednesday night and spread across the north Wednesday night. Heavier and more widespread rain and snow will arrive Thursday and linger Friday from another system. Precipitation amounts in some mountain areas may total well over an inch by the end of the week.

Snow levels will lower to around 3000-4000 ft in the north and 5000 ft in the south this week.

Drier conditions will arrive this weekend, although some lingering cloudiness is expected, especially over the mountains.

#### Fuels/Fire Potential

Fuel moistures have been on a roller coaster path these past couple months as the wet periods come and go. This week's weather pattern ought to bring things back into the **MOIST** category in all areas.

Annual grasses are in early stages of curing in some of the drier, and/or poorer soil areas at lower elevations, especially farther south and where there's been drier conditions. Snowpack remains at historical lows for April, exposing fuels at mid to higher elevations to the elements significantly earlier than average dates. Although this week's precipitation ought to bring some snow to the high country, little addition to the snow pack is likely.

Most of Northern California remains in **Severe to Extreme** longer-term drought. For the latest drought map see: <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>





#### Resources







## Legend

### Fuel Dryness

	Moist - Little or no risk for large fires.
	Dry - Low risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
	Very dry - Low/Moderate risk of large fires in the absence of a "High Risk" event.
	Data Unavailable.

### High Risk Events

	Windy and Dry
	Lightning

#### Missing Stations

- Devore

## California - South Area 7 Day Significant Fire Potential

Issued: Tuesday, Apr 22, 2014

Parameters: None ▼

Predictive Service Area	Mon Apr 21	Tue Apr 22	Wed Apr 23	Thu Apr 24	Fri Apr 25	Sat Apr 26	Sun Apr 27	Mon Apr 28
SC01 - Eastern Sierra								
SC02 - Central Sierra								
SC03 - Southern Sierra								
SC04 - Sierra Foothills								
SC05 - Central Valley								
SC06 - Central Coast Interior								
SC07 - Central Coast								
SC08 - South Coast								
SC09 - Western Mountains								
SC10 - Eastern Mountains								
SC11 - Southern Mountains								
SC12 - Lower Deserts								
SC13 - Eastern Deserts								
SC14 - Central Mojave								
SC15 - Upper Deserts								
SC16 - Northern Deserts								

### Weather

\*\*\*Strong winds today, hot next week\*\*\*

A dissipating cold front will bring strong winds to many areas today. Gusty west winds of 30-40 mph with gusts over 70 mph will occur in the high Sierras throughout the daylight hours and some of these winds will spread into the Owens Valley by late morning. **By afternoon, some dry, downsloping winds of 45-55 mph with gusts to 75 mph can be expected from the east side of the Crest into the western Owens Valley.** Expect minimum RH to drop into the teens in the Owens Valley during the windiest period this afternoon. Other areas, including the Antelope Valley into the Mojave Desert and the central coast will experience winds of 25-35 mph with gusts to 45 mph. A few light showers will be possible in the Sierras north of Fresno County, but little in the way of precipitation is expected from this system. Temperatures today will be 5-10 degrees cooler with highs in the lower 70s in the valleys to the 40s in the mountains. The winds will weaken and shift to the north tonight which will result in locally gusty winds of 25-35 mph along the I-5 Corridor after midnight. Wednesday and Thursday, look for much lighter winds and warming temperatures. Thursday night into Friday, another trough is expected to drop into the state. This system will have a bit more moisture to work with and some light showers may occur as far south as San Diego County by Friday evening. Rainfall from this system will be under a quarter of an inch with the highest totals occurring in the Sierras. It will also be windy in the same areas Friday and Friday night. Drier and warmer weather is expected this coming weekend with less marine layer coverage. A strong ridge of high pressure may bring very warm temperatures to the region next week. Widespread 90+ degree readings in the valleys appear likely next week.

### Fuels/Fire Potential

The focus for large fire potential will be over the Owens Valley today where downsloping flow in the lee of the Sierras will lead to very windy and dry conditions. Expect minimum RH to drop into the teens in the western side of the valley despite abundant cloud cover. **This will result in extremely rapid rates of spread on the lee side of the Crest into areas above the valley floor, especially from 6,000 to 9,000 feet.** The rest of the desert and the central coast will see windy conditions as well, but RH should be higher than the Owens Valley this afternoon. Next week, the prospect of hot weather will promote rapid curing of seasonal grasses, especially over Southern CA. Look for much higher IA in response to the hot and dry weather with a substantial drop in live fuel moisture in the fine fuels. However, IA should continue to be light this week.

### Resources

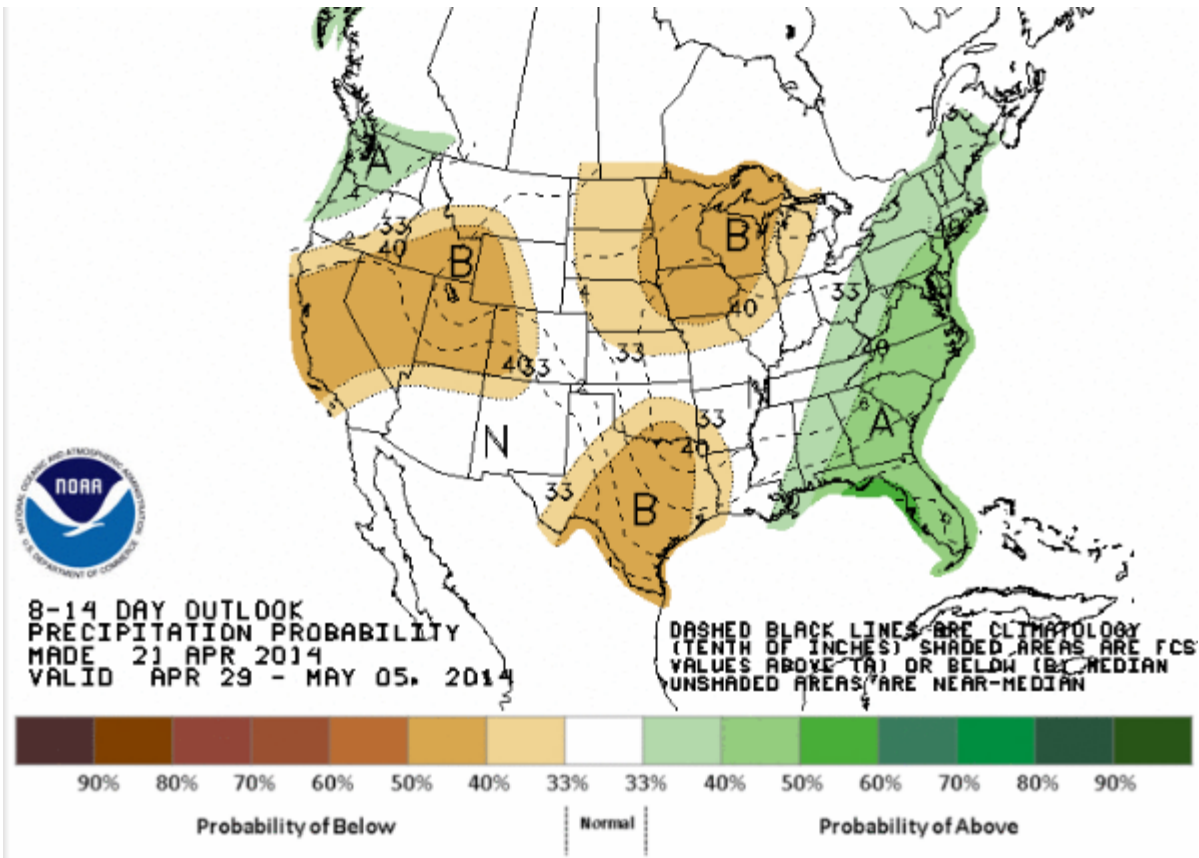
CWCG Preparedness Level 2, MACS Mode 2



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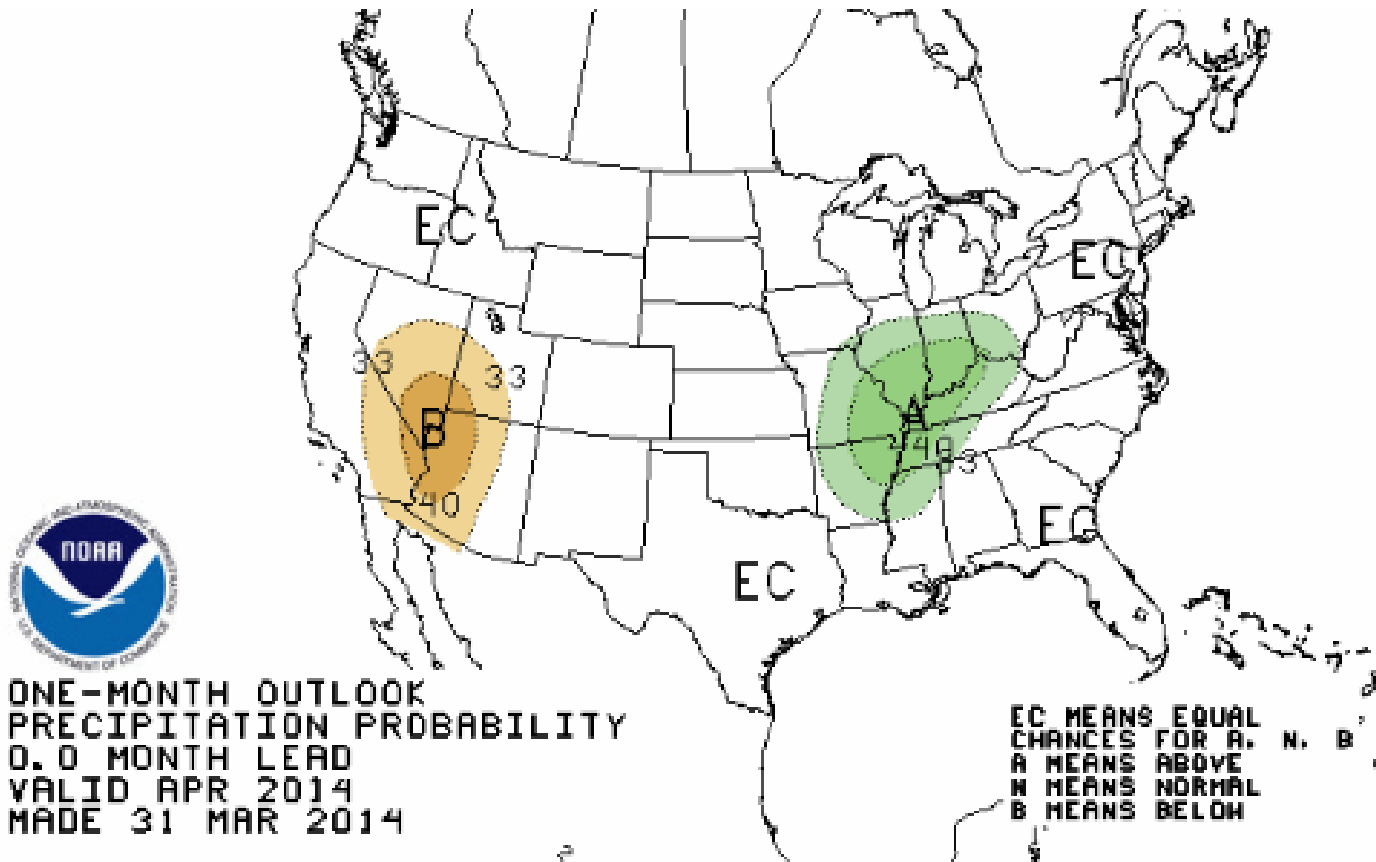


# 8-14 Day Precipitation Probability Outlook for April 29 – May 5, 2014



<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/814day/>

## March-April Precipitation Probability Outlook



<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>



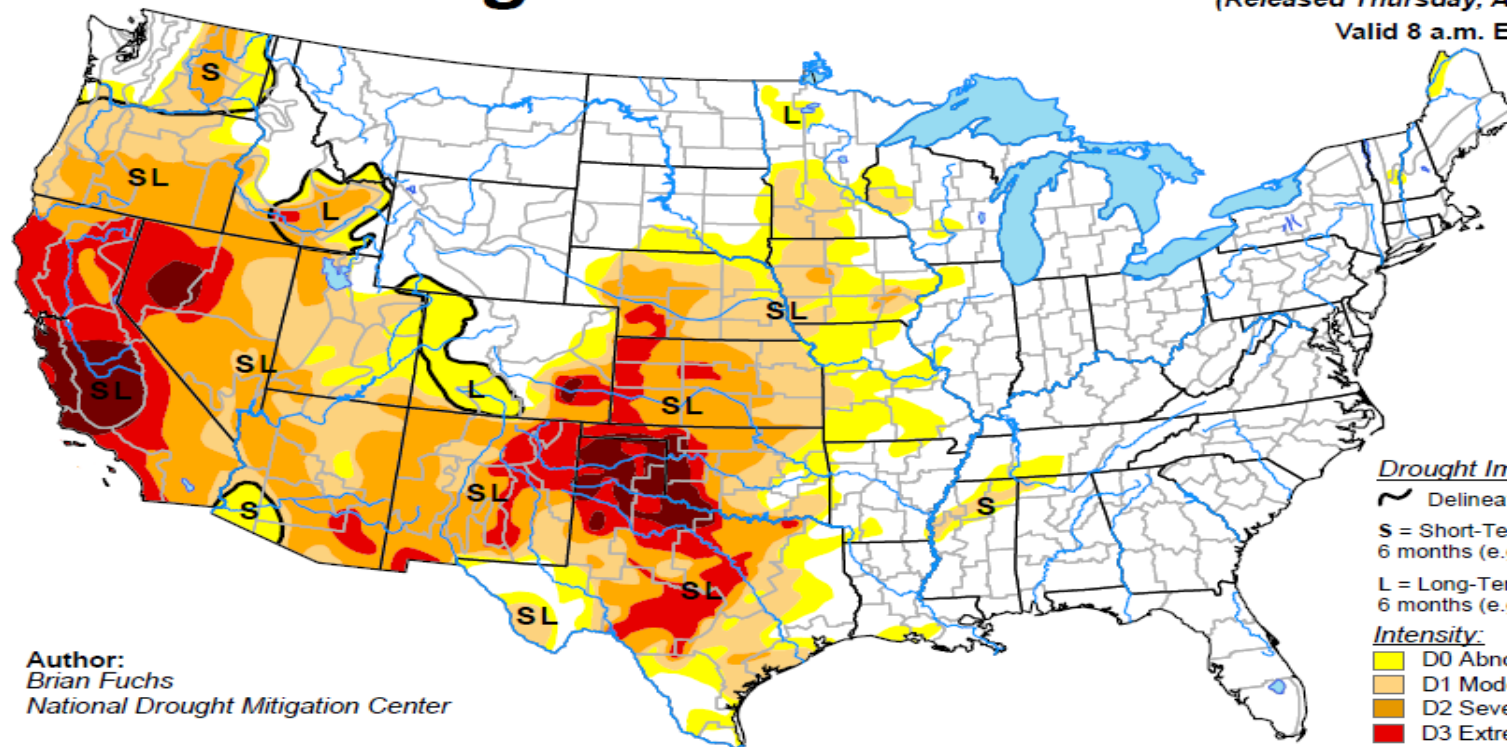
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# U.S. Drought Monitor

April 15, 2014

(Released Thursday, Apr. 17, 2014)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Author:  
Brian Fuchs  
National Drought Mitigation Center

## Drought Impact Types:

~ Delineates dominant impacts

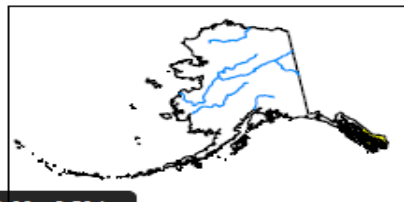
S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)

L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

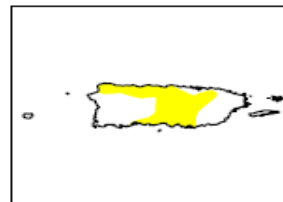
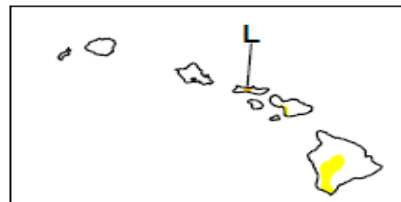
## Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.



11.00 x 8.50 in



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

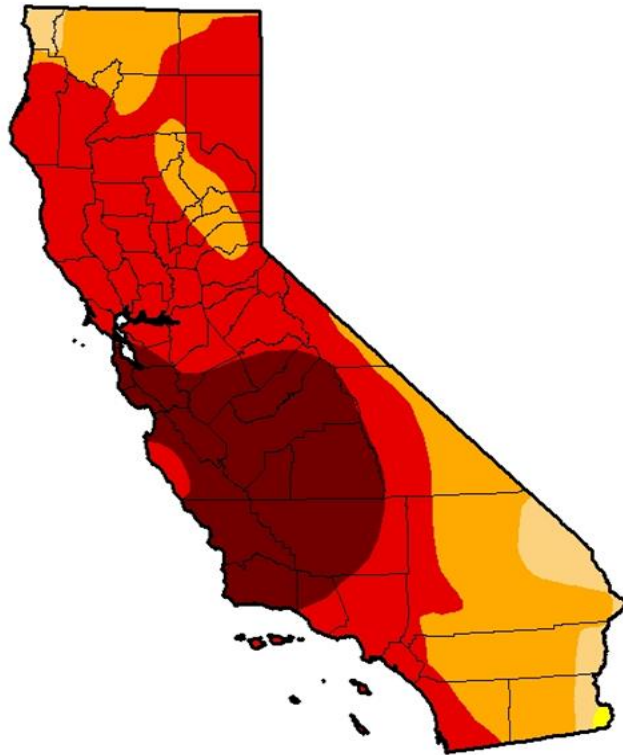


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# Weather Summary - Current Drought Conditions in California

## U.S. Drought Monitor California



April 8, 2014

(Released Thursday, Apr. 10, 2014)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	99.81	95.21	68.76	23.49
Last Week 4/1/2014	0.00	100.00	99.81	95.21	68.76	23.49
3 Months Ago 1/7/2014	1.43	98.57	94.25	87.53	27.59	0.00
Start of Calendar Year 12/31/2013	2.61	97.39	94.25	87.53	27.59	0.00
Start of Water Year 10/1/2013	2.63	97.37	95.95	84.12	11.36	0.00
One Year Ago 4/9/2013	2.84	97.16	48.39	23.22	0.00	0.00

### Intensity

D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought
D2 Severe Drought	

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

### Author:

Brian Fuchs

National Drought Mitigation Center



<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

The D4 (Exceptional Drought) is the worst drought category on the Drought Monitor and **the first time it's been used in California since this monitoring system started in 2000.** The degradation was made due to historically low rainfall amounts so far this winter, long-term precipitation deficits stretching several years, and a growing number of increasingly significant drought impacts. **In addition, 68% of California is now covered by D3/D4 conditions.**

Note: Updated Weekly

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/Home/StateDroughtMonitor.aspx?CA>

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/sto/droughtca.php>

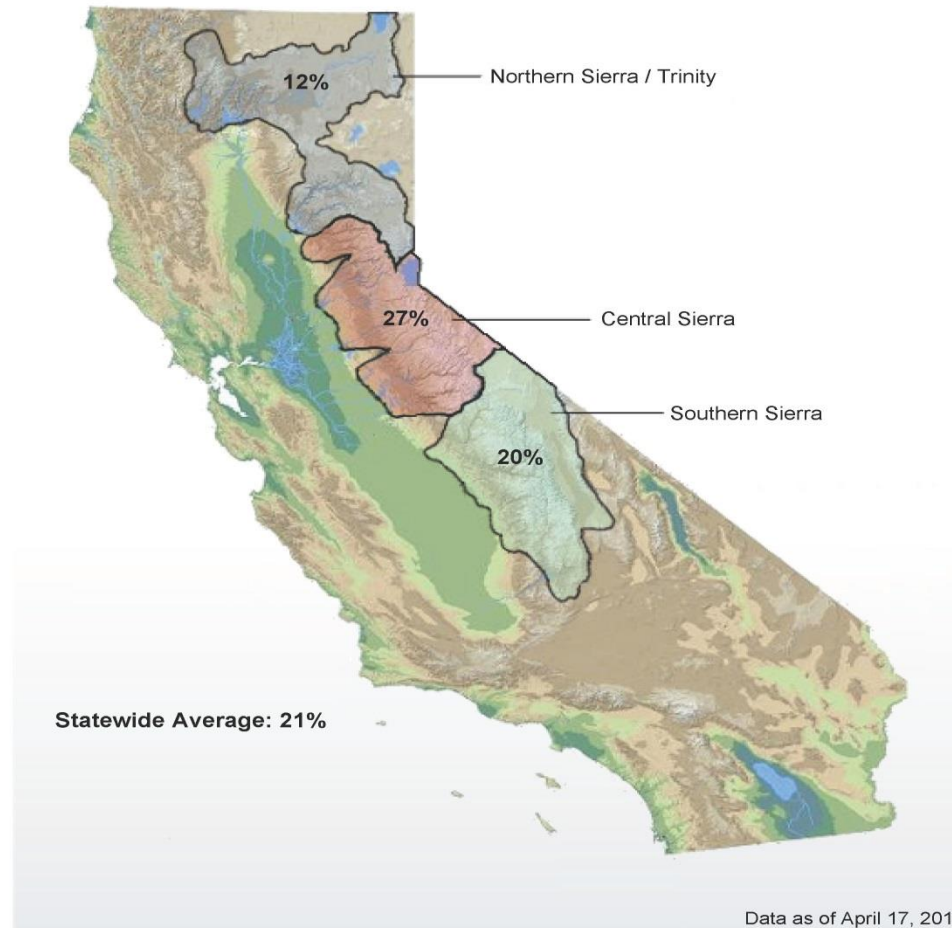


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# Statewide Summary of Snow Water Content

Current Regional Snowpack from Automated Snow Sensors - % of April 1 Average



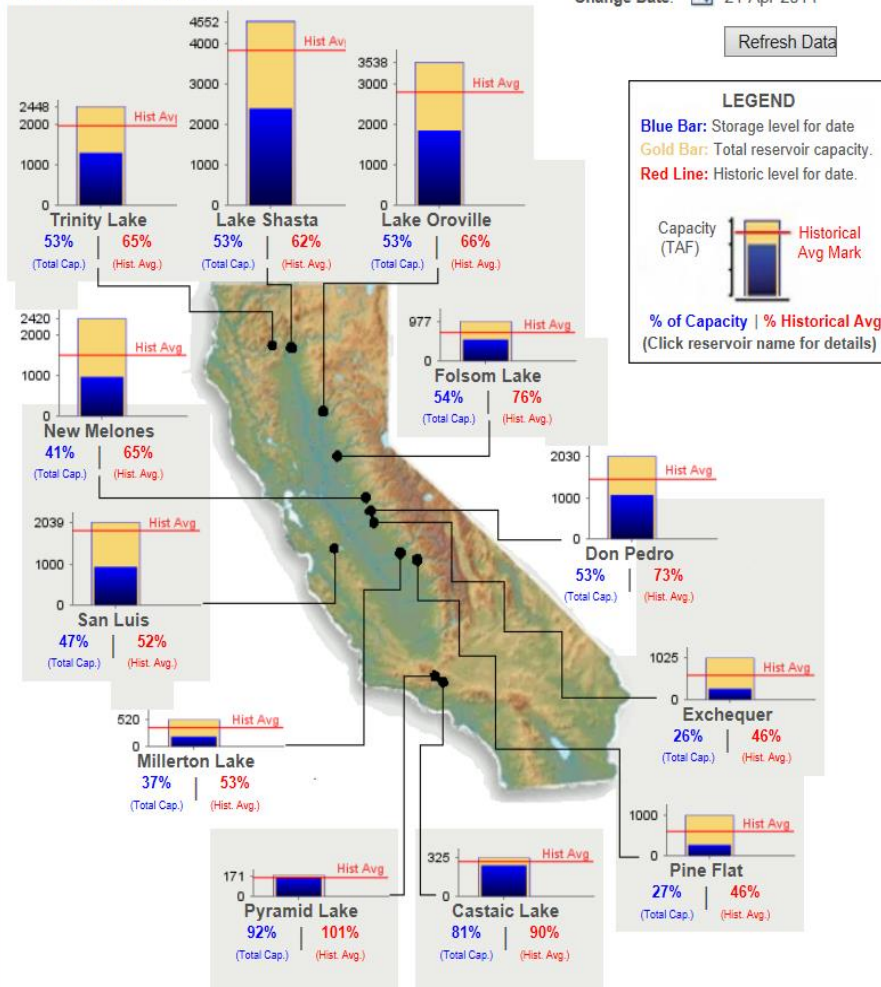
Updated 04/17/2014 09:15 AM

## CONDITIONS FOR MAJOR RESERVOIRS: 21-APR-2014

Data as of Midnight: 21-Apr-2014

Change Date: 21-Apr-2014

Refresh Data



## Reservoir Levels

Many parts of California -- including Sacramento and Los Angeles -- marked calendar year 2013 as the driest on record. These extremely dry conditions follow two previous dry years statewide.

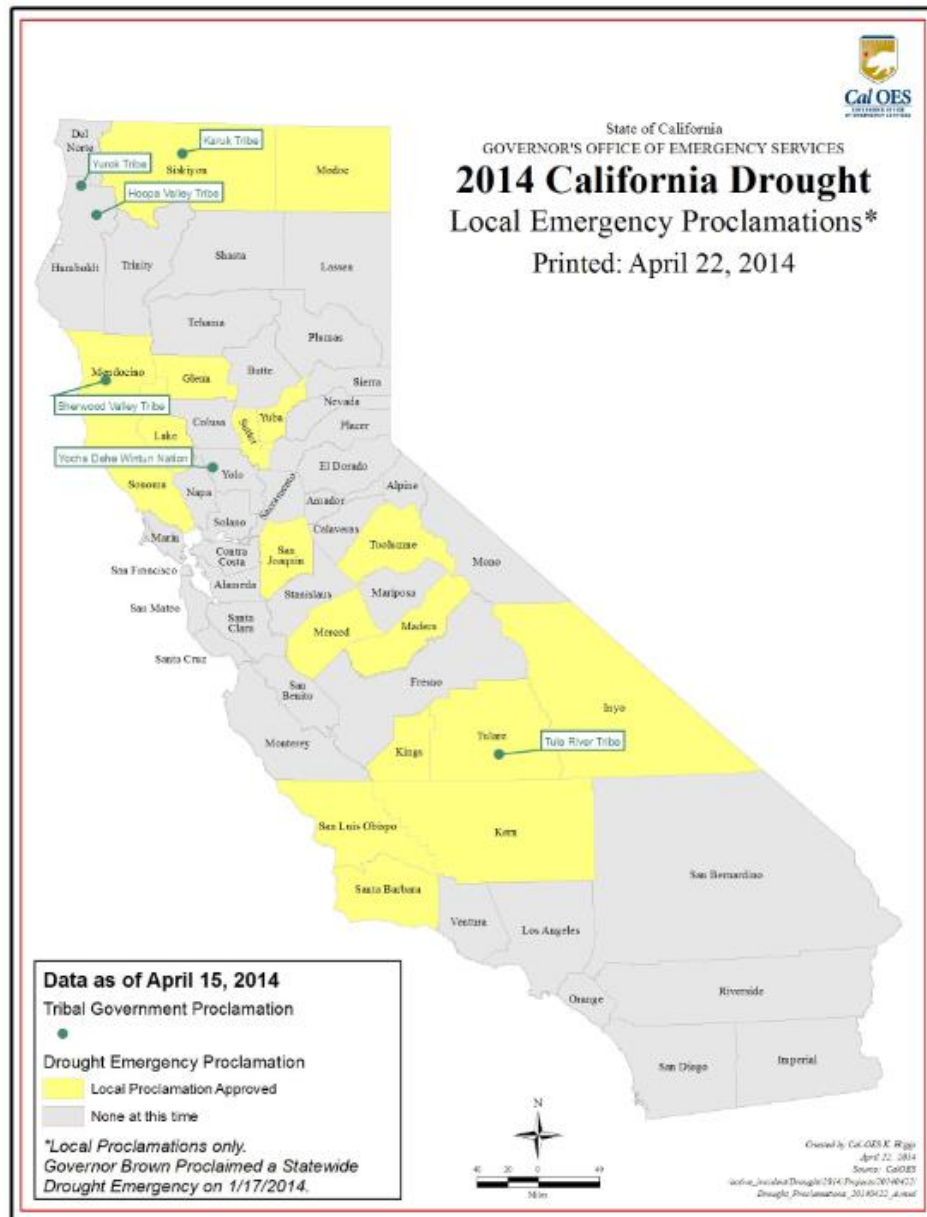
Storage in the reservoirs that typically help California cope with dry weather are well below average for this time of year.

River levels are low around the state. Along the North Coast, the Russian River, and the upper Sacramento River, levels are at their lowest points ever for this time of year.

Some water districts with a diversified portfolio of water sources and ample storage -- such as the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which serves 19 million people -- are prepared to weather a third dry winter.

Farmers who depend heavily on the State's two biggest water projects, the Central Valley Project and State Water Project, face minimal and uncertain supplies.

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cdecapp/resapp/getResGraphsMain.action>



## Proclamations

### State

1/17/14 Governor Edmund G. Brown proclaimed a State of Emergency

### Counties

Glenn (1/22/14)  
Inyo (1/29/14)  
Kern (1/14/14)  
Kings (1/14/14)  
Lake (1/17/14, ratified 3/4/14)  
Madera (1/17/14)  
Mendocino (1/7/14)  
Merced (2/25/14)  
Modoc (3/4/14)  
San Joaquin (2/25/14)  
San Luis Obispo (3/11/14)  
Santa Barbara (1/17/14)  
Siskiyou (3/11/2014)  
Sonoma (2/25/14)  
Sutter (2/11/14)  
Tulare (2/4/14)  
Tuolumne (2/4/14)  
Yuba (2/18/14)

### Tribal

Hoopa Valley Reservation (1/20/14)  
Sherwood Valley Pomo Indian Tribe (2/19/14)  
Yurok Reservation (1/29/14)  
Tule River Indian Tribe (1/30/14)  
Karuk Tribe (2/18/14)  
Yocha Dehe Wintun (3/25/2014)

### Federal

None



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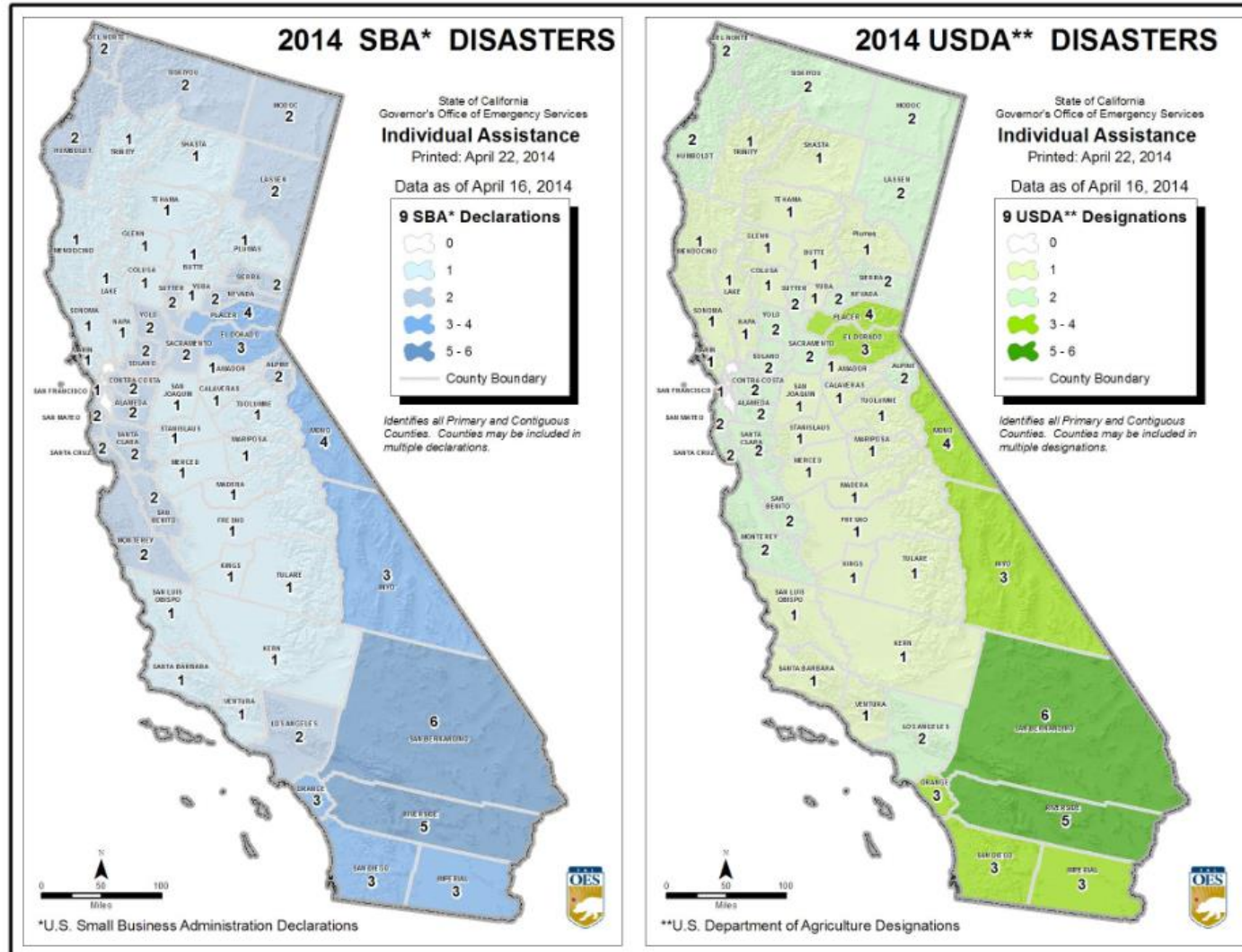




The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a secretarial disaster designation identifying 56 of 58 counties in California as primary natural disaster areas due to drought and 2 contiguous counties. This means that every county in California is now eligible to receive assistance.

# USDA Disaster Designation – Individual Assistance

Information as of 4/22/14



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